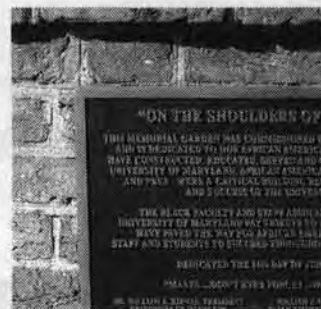


# Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Volume 17 • Number 4 • February 26, 2002



This Week's  
Mystery  
Photo  
Contest

Page 4

## Harnessing the Sun's Power Solar Decathletes to Compete in Washington, D.C.

A team of university students and their faculty advisors are building a home for the future. It will be completely solar powered and in the middle of the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

As part of the 2002 Solar Decathlon this fall, 14 universities will build such structures, with most of the work being done during the summer. A cross-disciplinary team from Maryland will compete against Carnegie Mellon University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Tuskegee University and others in 10 events designed to test inventiveness, leadership and architectural and scientific skills.

"Everything in the house has to be solar-powered; all the kitchen appliances, the electricity. We have to run a mock home-based business with e-mail, sending faxes," says Alex Yasbek, a junior mechanical engineering major working on the project. "And it all has to be incredibly efficient."

The Department of Energy and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory sponsor the event, along with BP Solar and the American Institute of Architects. The winner of the seven-day competition will have built the best-looking house, measuring approximately 800 square feet, that can produce the most energy with the most efficiency. During the event, only the solar energy available within the perimeter of each house may be used to generate the power needed to compete in the contests. The event is the culmination of two years of planning, designing and building. Contestants will have to cook meals, wash laundry and perform other tasks normal to running a household. They will occupy the home from 7 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.

"We also have to have an electric car," adds Andrew Hunt, a senior mechanical engineering major leading the team. He hopes to finish the home in June, in time for graduation and the final design deadline. Thirty-seven students are working on the project this semester, with faculty members Jungho Kim (mechanical engineering), Carl Bovill (architecture) and John Cable (civil engineering) providing support.

"I'm what I'd call an extremely distant advisor. The students

See *SOLAR*, page 3

## Pretty Distraction Changes Focus



PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

The pages have yellowed in one of Doug Gill's black binders. It holds the sketchings of about 2,000 newts. Each given with a number, all distinct with their red spots.

The newts were his first major project when he came to the university in 1971 as an assistant zoology professor. The NSF-sponsored research project on 9,000 red-spotted newts and giant frogs had him doing field



The work of zoology professor Doug Gill (l) on the pink lady's slipper orchid is featured in an orchid exhibit at the U.S. Botanic Garden. Above is just one of an amazing variety of orchids in the exhibit.

work in the George Washington National Forest in western Virginia. While there, he spotted thousands of pink lady's slipper orchids and thought this plant would be a good subject for studying evolutionary ecology.

See *ORCHIDS*, page 3

## Lab Measures "Wickedly Tiny" Fields Brain Activity Focus of New Tool

The "crowning piece" of a collaboration between Japanese technology and university expertise was shown off recently during the opening celebration of a new lab.

The Kanazawa Institute of Technology (KIT)-University of Maryland MEG Laboratory, at the Cognitive Neuroscience of Language Laboratory, aims to better measure the brain's magnetic fields. These minute fields come about as a result of the electrical signals neurons use to communicate. MEG stands for magnetoencephalography, which is the process of measuring the brain's magnetic fields. Housed in the Department of Linguistics,



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

MEG lab manager Jeff Walker (r) guides linguistics professor Colin Phillips' brain into the MEG (magnetoencephalography) machine.

tics, the lab seeks to combine the study of linguistics, cognitive neuroscience, language acquisition, genetic disorders and computational modeling.

Part of the wonder of this new non-invasive tool is how fast it came into existence, and

See *BRAIN*, page 2

## Bower Power

Interior decorating prowess coupled with some flashy dance moves can pay dividends for the aspiring lothario — especially in the animal kingdom.

Biology doctoral student Gail L. Patricelli, studying the mating of satin bowerbirds for her dissertation, discovered a third skill males need in order to mate successfully: sensitivity.

She discovered this while studying the curious bowerbird courtship ritual in the bird's native New South Wales, Australia. At the start of mating season, the male satins build two-walled upswept structures with grass, leaves and sticks. Some of the more ambitious birds furnish the area in front of their bower with plastic baubles, clothespins and bright feathers. Especially prized is the blue parrot feather.

According to Gerald Borgia, Patricelli's faculty advisor in the biology department, bowerbirds are the only birds whose males are known to use interior decorating prowess and landscape architecture to prove their manliness to females. Other species of bowerbirds build on a much larger scale. The males of one New Guinea species build 6-foot domed bowers that in the past have been mistaken for human dwellings.

A female will circle the neighborhood, checking out all the bowers. She'll land on one she likes and that's the male's cue to begin wooing. The iridescent purple bird begins a rowdy song and dance routine in which he jumps, sings and ruffles his feathers.

"The male satin bowerbird puts on a very intense mating display, which is important for the wooing of the female. But if it gets too aggressive and threatening, it can also startle her," said Patricelli.

As part of the mating process, a female may revisit a particular bower more than once before consenting. The male knows he's been successful when she crouches, signaling her consent. Consummation is over quickly in a ruffle of feathers. The female then flies off to lay her eggs, and raise her young

See *BIRDS*, page 3



# dateline maryland

YOUR GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY EVENTS: FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 5

TUESDAY

## february 26

**11:30 a.m., University of Maryland Retirees Association Luncheon Series** Golf Course Clubhouse. Henry P. Sims, Jr., professor of management and organization in the Robert H. Smith School of Business, will speak on "The New SuperLeadership: Leading Others to Lead Themselves." The cost is \$13; reservations are required. For information, contact Lynne Reilly at 5-2469.\*

**12-1 p.m., Service Learning Brown Bag Lunch** 0140 Holzapfel. Hear about preliminary results from a service-learning survey administered to 1,700 University of Maryland students. Learn how Community Service Programs can support you in developing and implementing service-learning courses. For more information, contact Marie Troppe at 4-5387 or mtroppe@accmail.umd.edu, or visit [www.umd.edu/CSP](http://www.umd.edu/CSP).

**12-1:30 p.m., IGCA Noon Forum: From Nixon to Bush: 30 Years of US-China Summitry** Multi-purpose Room, St. Mary's Hall. Speakers James Mann (Center for Strategic and International Studies, author and former LA Times correspondent) and Stanley Karnow (Pulitzer Prize-winning author, journalist and historian) will review the history of U.S.-China summit meetings since President Nixon's 1972 trip to Beijing, in order to assess the latest Bush summit. Was the Bush summit substantive? What did it accomplish? What factors influenced it? A buffet lunch will be served: students \$5; others \$10. For more information and to RSVP, contact Rebecca McGinnis at 5-0208 or rm165@uimail.umd.edu.

**12:45-4 p.m., OIT Short-course Training: Make a Simple Web Page** 4404 Computer & Space Science. Introduces Netscape's Web page editing and development tool. Familiarity with the World Wide Web and Netscape is required; a WAM account is recommended. The fee is \$40. For more information and to register, contact OIT Training Services Coordinator at 5-0443 or oit-training@uimail.umd.edu, or visit [www.oit.umd.edu/sc](http://www.oit.umd.edu/sc).\*

**4-6 p.m., Worldly Goods,**

**Envy, and the Rise of Competition** 0135 Taliaferro Hall. With Dennis Romano, professor of history, Syracuse University. Sponsored by the Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Adele Seeff at 5-6830 or as18@uimail.umd.edu, or visit [www.inform.umd.edu/crbs](http://www.inform.umd.edu/crbs).

**8 p.m., University of Maryland Symphonic Wind Ensemble** Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. The premier ensemble of the Maryland Bands program. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

WEDNESDAY

## february 27

**3-5 p.m., Black History: A Multi-Ethnic Celebration** 1101 Hornbake Library. The Office of Multi-Ethnic Student Education hosts a celebration of Black History Month. The program will demonstrate the influence of Black History on other cultures and the world. Multi-ethnic faculty, students and staff will participate in the cultural activities and educational dialogue, oral tradition, displays, multi-ethnic cuisine and entertainment. For more information, call 5-6822.

THURSDAY

## february 28

**9 a.m.-12 p.m., Building Healthy Relationships** 1101U Chesapeake Building. A Personnel Services Department workshop designed to provide participants with skills to evaluate, build and enhance significant relationships in their lives. For more information and to register, contact Natalie Torres at 5-5651 or traindev@accmail.umd.edu, or visit [www.personnel.umd.edu](http://www.personnel.umd.edu).

**4-5:30 p.m., Talk About Teaching: The Harlem Renaissance** 0135 Taliaferro Hall. Scot Reese, an associate professor in the university's Department of Theatre, will lead an informal conversation and sharing of ideas open to the university and local community. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Nancy Traubitz at 5-6833 or nt32@uimail.umd.edu.

FRIDAY

## march 1

**12-12:50 p.m., Entomology Colloquium** 1140 Plant Sciences Building. Kevin Thorpe of the USDA-ARS will speak on "Research support for the national slow-the-spread-of-the-gypsy-moth program." For more information, call 5-3911 or visit [www.entm.umd.edu](http://www.entm.umd.edu).

**12-1:15 p.m., Department of Communication Spring Colloquium Series** 0200 Skinner. Angharad Valdivia, University of Illinois, will present "Brain, Brow, or Bootie: Latinas in Contemporary Popular Culture." For more information, contact Trevor Parry-Giles at 5-8947 or tp54@uimail.umd.edu, or visit [www.comm.umd.edu](http://www.comm.umd.edu).

**8 p.m., The Academy of Ancient Music** Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Christopher Hogwood and fortepianist Robert Levin present an all-Mozart program. Tickets are \$20-\$40. Call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

SATURDAY

## march 2

**8 p.m., West Point Saxophone Quartet** Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Guest ensemble performs a program including the local premiere of "Rivermusic" by faculty composer L.K. Moss. Call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

SUNDAY

## march 3

**7:30 p.m., Spiderwoman Theater: Persistence of Memory** Kogod Theatre, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. This three-woman Native American company delivers uniquely earthy humor that challenges stereotypes. Post-performance question-and-answer. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

MONDAY

## march 4

**2 p.m., Modern France/Modern Italy: Aspects of**

## Brain: Teaser headline

Continued from page 1

when. The team began working last September.

"Our colleagues at NIH have been working on this before us," said Colin Phillips, a professor in the linguistics department. "And they're still working on it."

"What's been phenomenal is the support from KIT. They've really pushed things through. They had a team of 10 people from Japan here. On September 11, half of the group was an hour from Dulles. They were diverted to Detroit. They stayed there for a few days and still came here to work. The president of KIT is a hobby carpenter. He came with his tools and his overalls and went to work."

He had a blast of a time."

Like many projects at Maryland, the lab combines the talents of several disciplines. Electrical engineers assisted with the signal processing techniques. The physics department worked on the critical area of MEG recording. Cognitive neuroscientists lent expertise. Phillips sees this type of collaboration continuing.

Those involved hope the lab becomes a resource for neuroscientists in the greater Washington, D.C. area and beyond. "The MEG is the best one of its kind in North America," said Phillips. "We're pretty amazed ourselves."

**the Future** Multi-Purpose Room, Language House.

"Toward a New Italian Cinema: Emerging from the Shadows of the Video Age," with Millicent J. Marcus, Mariano DiVito Professor of Italian Studies, University of Pennsylvania. Refreshments will follow.

**4-6 p.m., Political Violence Seminar** 3121 Symons Hall. Jack Mack Faragher of Yale University will speak on "Without these compromises it would be impossible to exist in this country: Allegiance, Neutrality and Violence in Acadia, 1604-1755." Discussions are based on pre-circulated papers available in the History Department office that can be requested at [historycenter@uimail.umd.edu](mailto:historycenter@uimail.umd.edu).

**8 p.m., Annual Big Band Invitational** Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. A presentation of the University of Maryland School of Music and Maryland Presents. Free. Call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

TUESDAY

## march 5

**4 p.m., Distinguished Lecturer Series: What's the Matter in the Universe?** 1412 Physics Building. Vera Rubin, senior fellow in astronomy at the Carnegie Institution in Washington, D.C., examines the dark parts of the universe. Call Anna Salajegheh, 5-8140.

**4:15-6 p.m., Perspectives in Minority Achievement** 1121 Benjamin. Panelists Kenneth Strike, Carol Parham and James Richmand will discuss school policies and academic achievement. For more information, contact Martin L. Johnson at [mj13@uimail.umd.edu](mailto:mj13@uimail.umd.edu). For a

summary of the presentations, visit [www.education.umd.edu/MIMAUE](http://www.education.umd.edu/MIMAUE).

**5:30 p.m., Daniel Heifetz: Strange Bedfellows** Laboratory Theatre, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. With banjo player Buddy Watcher. Part of the Take Five series. Free. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit [www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu).

**7 p.m., Chinese Film Series** Basement, St. Mary's Hall. "Not One Less," directed by Zhang Yimou, 1999. For more information, visit [www.inform.umd.edu/igca](http://www.inform.umd.edu/igca).

## Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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**Teresa Flannery** • Executive Director of University Communications and Director of Marketing

**George Cathcart** • Executive Editor

**Monette Austin Bailey** • Editor

**Cynthia Mitchell** • Art Director

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Letters to the editor, story suggestions and campus information are welcome. Please submit all material two weeks before the Tuesday of publication.

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## calendar guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314 or 405. Calendar information for Outlook is compiled from a combination of inform's master calendar and submissions to the Outlook office. Submissions are due two weeks prior to the date of publication. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail to [outlook@accmail.umd.edu](mailto:outlook@accmail.umd.edu). \*Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (\*).



## Orchids: Beautiful and Often Immortal

Continued from page 1



PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Orchid growers have created unique varieties for the exhibit "The Allure of Orchids" at the U.S. Botanic Garden.

"Oh, it was beautiful," Gill said, seemingly still in awe of the memory of the flower. His work with the orchid has led to his inclusion in a U.S. Botanic Garden exhibit running until April.

His background had taught him that orchids had special and specific interactions with insects, but he found no evidence of such in his orchids. They weren't even reproducing. Gill says it took him 25 years to figure out why.

"They are effectively immortal," he said about the flowers, adding that they're older than some of the trees in the forest. His findings were groundbreaking, showing what happens when forest fires are suppressed before doing their natural duty of knocking down trees and giving plant life an open space to rejuvenate.

"Fire is a positive feature not only for the orchids, but all of the plants on the forest floor,"

Gill said. "There is no plant that wants to be on the floor of a shady forest." Therefore, they don't reproduce.

Gill tested his findings by conducting an experiment with the National Forest Service by burning sections of the park. On the sections burned, he saw reproduction in the orchids living in open space.

He has traveled all over talking about the pink lady's slipper.

Gill will give a slide presentation of his orchid discoveries on Saturday, March 16 at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) at the U.S. Botanic Garden, West Wing, located at the SE corner of the Mall, directly in front of the Capitol. Pre-registration for free tickets required: Contact Katie Palm at (202) 226-8038 or KPalm@AOC.gov.

per and become such a name in the field that Christine Flanagan, manager of public programs of the U.S. Botanic Garden, invited him to be featured in the exhibit "The Allure of Orchids." The exhibit began in January and will run until April 7.

"The sense of the exhibit is that these plants have the power to entrance people," said Flanagan. "It's a huge investment of his life, all focused around this population of lady's slippers. There are not many things that can bewitch people to that sense."

The national garden asked him last fall if he would participate. A video crew came to his home in University Park to shoot the four-and-a-half minute film that plays at the exhibit. His dining room was turned into a set and an oversized photograph of a Canadian landscape served as a backdrop.

Along with the film, the exhibit features a large diorama resembling his study site in the national forest, complete with pine trees and laurels.

Although orchids have been a part of much of Gill's 31 years at Maryland, he has other interests as well. As a young boy in New Jersey, he thought he would spend the rest of his life as a bird watcher, but his activities have expanded into studying and teaching topical biology in Costa Rica, aiding in restoration of Maryland's Eastern Shore grasslands and singing with the Choral Arts Society of Washington.

## Birds: Real Men Decorate

Continued from page 1

alone. Animal behaviorists generally believe the channel of communication between the birds is one-way.

"In pair-bonded species," Patricelli explained, "males and females collaborate to rear young, so it's been expected and demonstrated that courtship involves reciprocal communication, but in species such as the bowerbird, in which the male has many mates and no

students. "It was tricky, but not terribly difficult," he said. "We built a sheet metal skeleton, and a taxidermist did the bird's exterior. We inserted a small computer to control the bird. Of course we called that the 'bird brain.'"

Once the bird was constructed, Patricelli stealthily placed the robot into the bowers of males she'd been studying with one of the 36



PHOTO BY DAVID HINKLE

The "fembot" bowerbird in a bower and her remote control.

role in raising the young, it's been assumed that communication during display was essentially one way—the male saying 'Mate with me.'

Patricelli and Borgia, however, weren't convinced that the conversation was that one-sided. To gauge the importance of female communication in successful mating, they devised an experiment. It required some specialized equipment and a cooperative effort between two disciplines not usually linked: biology and mechanical engineering. The result: a remote controlled mechanical female bowerbird, which researchers dubbed the "fembot," designed to look like and mimic the actions of a real female. With the ability to fluff her wings, tilt her head, and assume the mating stance, a slow crouch with a tip, the robot could give all the signs to the courting flesh and blood male.

"We wanted to control the signals given by females during courtship," explained Borgia of the experiment's methodology. "Females have fewer moves than the male in courtship, so we could realistically duplicate the female's behavior with a mechanical bird."

Professor Gregory Walsh of the mechanical engineering department designed the faux female with some of his

cameras Borgia and his team of graduate students maintain in Wallaby Creek, Australia. After some problems with the prototype, the researchers perfected the robot.

When the males returned to find the robot in their bowers they immediately began their mating dance, and Patricelli controlled the robot's movement from a hidden vantage point.

"Our experiment showed that the preferred males were those who could give a highly intense display but who could tone down the intensity to avoid startling the female," said Patricelli. "The less successful males either didn't pick up on the female's signals and were scaring her, or they were not displaying intensely enough. For the benefit of both, females should signal their level of comfort with the male's display. Our experiments confirmed this."

Borgia put the results in a larger context. "Like humans, bowerbirds have evolved a high level of intelligence, but each species has come to this point with a very different set of ancestors. The example of bowerbirds has led some to suggest that in humans and bowerbirds, intelligence may have been driven by competition to show off to the opposite sex."

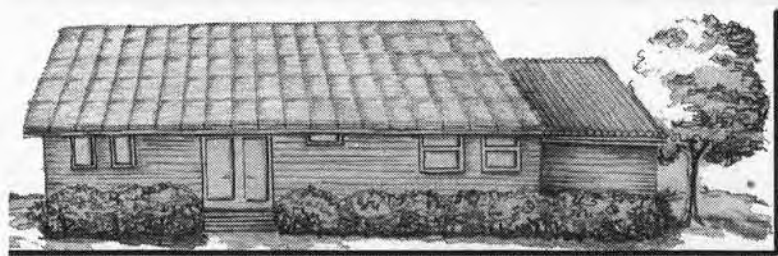
## Solar: Competition Tests Inventiveness

Continued from page 1

came to me because I'm director of the Graduate Project Management Program, well after they were underway," says Cable. "Every couple of weeks we review where they are. I gave some guidance on the design."

more people aren't building completely solar-powered homes — yet.

"It's not something realistic within the next 10 years," says Yasbek. "But now people do use solar-heated hot water."



SOUTH SIDE PERSPECTIVE

An architect's rendering of the back (south) side of the home. The roof is covered in solar panels.

Most of the \$90,000 in materials needed to build the house is being donated or sold at reduced prices. Students not only plan and design the home, but must raise funds as well. Hunt says seed money also came from the Department of Energy. He says the cost could be as much as \$200,000 to buy everything at full price. One solar panel, which harnesses enough energy to run one light bulb, costs \$300. Expense is one of the reasons

"And as the price of fossil fuel rises, more people will be using solar energy," says Hunt, citing California's energy crisis as an example. Sales of solar panels hit record levels.

As part of the competition, decathletes must maintain a Web site that tracks the team's progress. Hunt and Yasbek say though the Maryland site is up ([www.solartech.umd.edu](http://www.solartech.umd.edu)), the team is not posting all of its developments. It's a strategic

move designed to throw off their competitors, though both students acknowledge they may not be alone in this tactic.

"We want them to think we're the underdog," says Yasbek. "Then later we'll put everything up."

Hunt says according to organizers, Maryland is already ahead of most since it's begun construction on a plot of grass near President Dan Mote's house. "So he can look out the window and see how we're doing," jokes Hunt.

The project requires dozens of hours of work and Yasbek and Hunt have made adjustments to their schedules to accommodate the load. Both credit the competition with helping their futures. Yasbek is considering studying architecture as a result of his work with the decathlon. Hunt has a standing position with Clark Construction, a sponsor, after working as an intern for the company last semester. As for the house, its future is a bit uncertain. The ski club would like it for a chalet. The team's considered giving it to Habitat for Humanity.

"No matter what, I don't want it to sit somewhere on a back lot of the campus and rot," says Hunt.



# For Your Interest

## Looking for a Few Good Adults

The Adult Health & Development Program needs more adults over 50 for its one-on-one program. Student staffers are paired with adults age 50 and older to improve health and sense of well-being. Students are trained to serve as friendly coaches helping their member get into a health and well-being groove by applying gerontological health theory and research.

If you know of anyone who might benefit from physical and social activities and health education, call Dan Celdran at (301) 405-2489. The program runs for nine Saturdays ending on May 4 (off during Spring Break). Or visit the Web site, [www.inform.umd.edu/AHDP](http://www.inform.umd.edu/AHDP).

## Talking About Learning

The Center for Teaching Excellence presents a Teaching and Learning Conversation: Leading Rough Draft Workshop Sessions.

Students often benefit from class time spent on peer review of writing assignments, or rough draft workshop sessions. This workshop will focus on several approaches to integrating rough draft workshop sessions in class as well as strategies for helping students become critical readers of peer writing. It is specifically designed for TAs; however, all members of the University of Maryland community interested in teaching and learning are invited.

The workshop will be held March 5 from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Maryland Room, 0100 Marie Mount Hall. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP requested. Contact Mary Wesley at (301) 405-9356 or [mwesley@deans.umd.edu](mailto:mwesley@deans.umd.edu), or RSVP online at [www.umd.edu/CTE/rsvp.html](http://www.umd.edu/CTE/rsvp.html).

## Call for Nominees: BFSA Outstanding Achievement Awards

The 15th Annual Conference for African Americans in Higher Education is titled "Building Bridges: Developing Collaborative Relations and Strategies for Success in Higher Education."

The Black Faculty and Staff Association is seeking nominations for this year's Outstanding Achievement Awards. Awardees will be honored at the May 30 awards banquet. The categories for nomination are:

### James Otis Williams Award

The James Otis Williams award honors a person who has served as a leader and a mentor to African Americans within the University of Maryland community.

### Rhonda Williams Award

The Rhonda Williams award honors a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of African Americans within the University of Maryland community.

## University Service Awards

The University Service Awards recognize individuals who have demonstrated commitment to the mission and goals of the University of Maryland African American community. Awards will be presented to one non-exempt and one exempt university employee.

this month is "When You're Hot, You're Hot," featuring thermodynamics and its applications.

The program will be held three evenings in a row: Thursday, March 14, Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and the program takes place from 7:30-8:45 p.m. in the physics department lecture halls, 1410-1412

## Non-Credit Adult and Infant/Child CPR

Learn how to act in emergency situations and how to recognize and care for life-threatening respiratory or cardiac emergencies in infants, children and adults. This 6.5-hour course includes CPR for adults, infants

## What is it—Where is it?

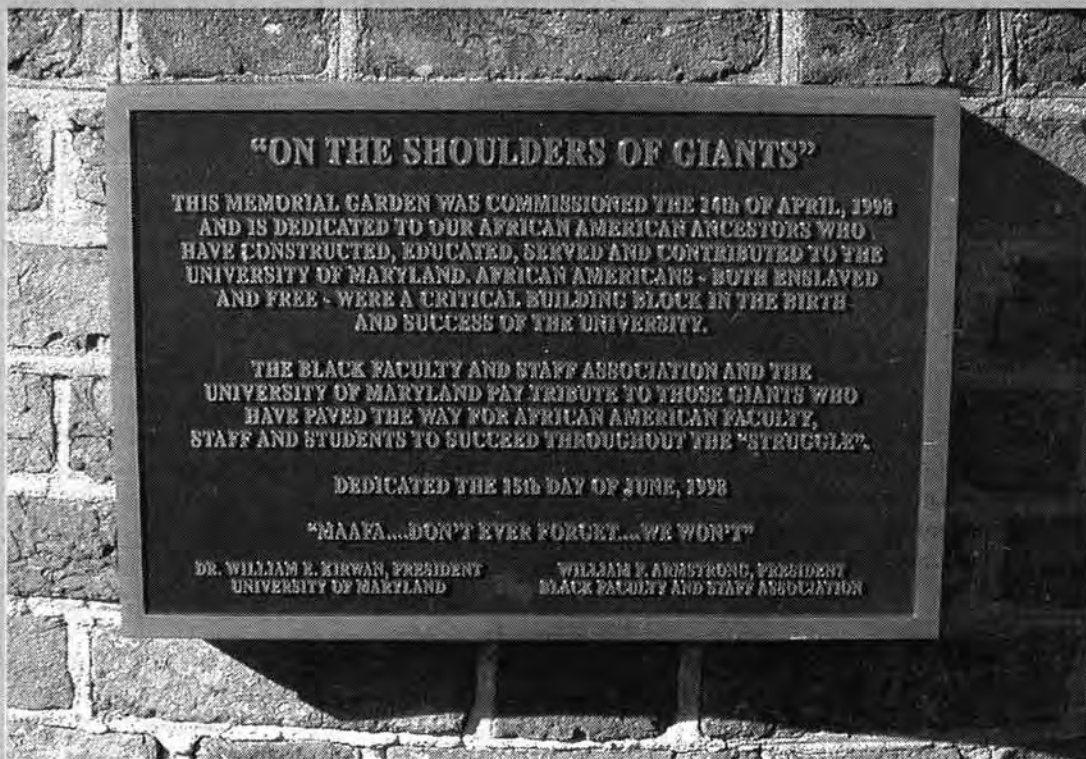


PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Identify the image in this photo and get a chance to win a prize! Send your guess to: Mystery Photo, Outlook, 2101 Turner Hall or [outlook@accmail.umd.edu](mailto:outlook@accmail.umd.edu). All correct entries will be placed in a drawing. Deadline for entries is 5 p.m. Feb. 28 and the winner will be announced in next week's issue of Outlook.

## Local Community Award \*

The Local Community Award is given to a member of the local community who has made an outstanding contribution to African Americans in higher education on a local level.

## National Service Award \*

The National Service Award recognizes an individual who has shown a commitment to the advancement of African Americans in Higher Education on a national level.

(\* Individuals of local or national status need not be employees of the University.)

For more information, contact Serena Mann at (301) 405-3610 or [smann@deans.umd.edu](mailto:smann@deans.umd.edu), or visit [www.inform.umd.edu/bfsa/conference](http://www.inform.umd.edu/bfsa/conference).

## Physics is Phun

The Department of Physics continues to present the public lecture-demonstration program series Physics is Phun. In its 20th year, the program is hosted by Richard Berg and the staff of the Physics Lecture-Demonstration Facility and assisted by numerous volunteers. This free public program, which presents physics at the high school level through the use of demonstrations, aims to educate, inform and entertain. Interactive experiments are available, with volunteer supervision, 30 minutes before each program.

The subject of exploration

ment lecture halls, 1410-1412 Physics Building. A sign language interpreter is available with adequate notice. To volunteer, call Bernie at (301) 405-5949 a week before the program.

For more information, call (301) 405-5994 or visit [www.physics.umd.edu/lecdem/phph.htm](http://www.physics.umd.edu/lecdem/phph.htm).

## Innovation in Teaching with Technology Award Nominations

Nominations for the University of Maryland Award for Innovation in Teaching with Technology are now being accepted. Co-sponsored by the Office of Information Technology and the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the award recognizes outstanding accomplishments in the use of technology to promote excellence in teaching and learning, and it helps highlight the many ways in which the university has taken leadership in this critical area. Those who have created innovations in teaching with technology are invited to consider applying for this award. Individuals or groups may apply. The application deadline is March 5, 2002.

Details can be found at [www.oit.umd.edu/tel/UMITT/](http://www.oit.umd.edu/tel/UMITT/). Or contact Ellen Yu Borkowski, director, Academic Support Office of Information Technology, at (301) 405-2922 or [eyb@umd.edu](mailto:eyb@umd.edu).

and children.

Campus Recreation Services will offer two classes, Sunday, March 10 or Saturday, May 4, each from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Register online at [www.crs.umd.edu](http://www.crs.umd.edu) until one week prior to class date. The cost is \$45. Payments for courses can be made by credit card (VISA, MC, Discover).

For more information, contact Laura Sutter at (301) 405-PLAY or [ls220@umail.umd.edu](mailto:ls220@umail.umd.edu), or visit [www.crs.umd.edu](http://www.crs.umd.edu).

## Learn to Create Truly Useful Web Applications

Can your Web site accept and store user information? Does it return information specific to user requests?

You can learn advanced techniques to create a truly interactive Web site in the eight-session data-based Web applications course. For those who already know HTML, OIT will teach programming (with ASP, VBScript and JavaScript) as well as concepts of database design and usage. Then combine techniques for an impressive Web presence.

The class will meet April 15-May 8 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30-10 p.m. The fee is \$495 including books. Register early, as space is limited.

For more information, contact LearnIT staff at (301) 405-1670 or [learnit@oacs.umd.edu](mailto:learnit@oacs.umd.edu), or visit [www.LearnIT.umd.edu](http://www.LearnIT.umd.edu).